

The Environmental Action Committee

4:30 p.m. – Wednesday, May 10, 2023

MacBain Community Centre Boardroom

Minutes of Meeting

Present:

Aniko Bzdyl, Pat Futino, Frank Fohr, Sheila DeLuca, Paisley Janvary-Pool, John Brucato, John Morocco, Debbie Cank-Thatcher, Jennifer Baldinelli, Tina Overstrom, Pat Mascarin, Councillor Victor Pietrangelo, Councillor Mike Strange, Jeff Guarasci (Staff), David Antonsen (Staff), Caleb Rakonjac (Student), Victoria Fretias (Student), Emma Mantler (Student), Arrah Patel (Student)

Regrets:

John Anstruther, Carly Milani, Tom Mingle, Paul Bongers

1. Welcome

David Antonsen, Landscape Architect for City of Niagara Falls and student Caleb Rakonjac discussed a park and trail wayfinding project and overall trail development. As outlined by the Wayfinding Master Plan, implementation is to begin in 2024 if approved by Council later this year. The NS&T Master Plan was approved with Phase 1 stretching from Kalar to Montrose, skipping over the QEW and then from Meadowvale to Gallanger. There are also plans to advance an additional trail located the woodlot in Chippawa beginning in 2023.

2. Adoption of Minutes

a) April 19, 2023 Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED BY Aniko Bzdyl, second by John Brucato that the minutes of the April 19, 2023 Environmental Action Committee meeting be approved as written.

Motion Carried

3. Business Arising

From the April 19, 2023 Committee Meeting

a) Renaming of Committee

The committee was notified that the request for the Committee name change was approved at the last Council meeting that took place on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023. The new name is the Environmental Action Committee (EAC).

b) Community Garden

The New Community Garden Program was approved at the last Council meeting. Administration for the program will be conducted by Staff with initial approval granted through the EAC. Other approvals, such as permits will need to be approved by other departments. Insurance coverage for community groups involved in the program will be paid by the City through its current provider.

4. Events & Programs

a) *Earth Day Clean-Up Review*

The committee discussed the event held on Saturday, April 22. Over 250 individuals participated in the clean-up as it was an overall success. The next clean-up date is set for Saturday, October 28, 2023.

b) *Mother Earth Day Overview*

Over 70 volunteers have registered to participate. Staff requested support from committee members to volunteer to assist during the event. The event will take place on Saturday, May 13 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Firemen's Park. Final details were discussed by the Committee. Assisting Committee members are to arrive at 7:00 am.

c) *Rotary Storywalk Pathway Opening*

The committee discussed the plans for the event that will be held on June 3rd, 2023 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at Carolyn Park. Staff requested assistance from Committee members for event set-up and the tree planting. Sheila DeLuca is to MC the event on behalf of the Recreation Committee.

d) *Summer Trillium Awards Overview*

Staff invited Committee members who are interested to join the Summer Trillium Awards Sub-Committee. The launch of the program will be June 1, 2023 with nominations closing on July 1, 2023.

5. New Business

a) *New EAC T-Shirts*

IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila DeLuca second by Jennifer Baldinelli that Staff design and order new t-shirts advertising the changed name of the committee. Sponsors are to be searched for to pay for the t-shirts.

Motion Carried

b) *Tour of Walker Quarry - Invitation*

Committee members are invited to tour the Walker Quarry on Monday, June 1st at 4:00 pm. Interested members are to RSVP attendance to Staff.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 4:30 pm, MacBain Community Centre Boardroom.